AN

OBITUARY REPORT

ON THE LATE

Prof. Samuel G. Armor, M.D., LL.D.,

—BY THE—

COMMITTEE OF THE

Medical Society of the County of Kings.

BROOKLYN:
EDWARD FERGUSON, PRINTER, 762 MYRTLE AVE.
1886.

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The Obituary Committee on the late Dr. Samuel G. Armor respectfully present the following minute, resolution, and reports :

This Society gratefully recalls and pays a tribute to the memory of its late associate, Dr. Samuel G. Armor, as a Christian gentleman of noble motives and pure life, whose modest demeanor and hearty frankness won the confidence of all ; as a faithful attendant on the meetings of the Society and a free and spirited contributor to its deliberations ; as a physician, skilful, faithful, and sincere ; as an adviser, honest and helpful ; as a scholar of varied and thorough learning ; as a teacher, erudite, winning and instructive ; as a friend, warm-hearted and constant ; and as an adornment to the profession to which he had devoted his life.

Resolved : That the Society cause this minute, with the reports of its Memorial Committee, to be spread upon its records, and that a copy thereof be sent to the family of our deceased friend.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF DR. ARMOR.

By Dr. F. E. West.

Samuel Glasgow Armor was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, January 29, 1819. He was descended from good Scotch stock, his father tracing his descent from the family of Miss Armor, the wife of Robert Burns, Scotland's greatest poet; and his mother, whose maiden name was Glasgow, from the Kirkpatricks, a family of high standing, in early times among the nobility of Scotland.

In 1830 he removed with his parents to Holmes County, Ohio.

Like most boys in Ohio at that time, he did not have much opportunity for early education; but appropriated and improved such as he had to the best advantage. Says one who knew him well: "He was a manly boy, of pure, faultless character, and hence in early life wasted no time in idleness, but, being ambitious and industrious, with great energy of purpose, he early manifested great capacity to learn, and readily prepared himself for college."

He entered Franklin College, at New Athens, Ohio, and remained there two years; but, because of limited means, was unable to graduate. During his first year in this institution, he was elected Contest Orator for his society, and won the honor against a talented member of the senior class.

This same institution, at its commencement on June 26, 1872, conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

Being a natural orator, and an easy and ready writer, when just of age, he entered the campaign of 1840 as an active young Whig politician, making several eloquent speeches, and, in connection with another boy of his own age who afterwards became his brother-in-law, edited a very spirited Whig campaign paper.

On leaving college, he entered the office of his brother-in-law, Dr. James S. Irvine, who was a leading physician of Millersburgh, Ohio, and also clerk of the courts of Holmes County.

When not engaged writing up the court records, he studied medicine, also adding to his general literary and scientific learning.

Meanwhile, a young lawyer named Welker, who is now Judge of the United States Courts of Northern Ohio, married his sister, and induced him to study law, which they did together, and he was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1843.

The contentions and disputes incident to this profession he did not like, and never pursued its practice. His legal study, however, he never regretted, as it was of great service to him in his career as a physician and teacher. He frequently alluded to the general principles of evidence in considering medical questions.

Soon after his admission to the bar, he resumed his medical studies, and graduated at the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis in 1844. Following his graduation, he located in Rockford, Ill. He was not allowed to remain long, however, in the private walks of his profession, but quickly commenced his career as a teacher of medicine.

In 1847 he accepted an invitation to deliver a special course of lectures on physiology in the Rush Medical College of Chicago, Ill., and the following year was tendered the chair of physiology and pathology in this institution, but declined it, as he had just accepted the same chair in the medical college at Keokuk, Iowa. Here he remained some time, and engaged in the active practice of his profession.

He subsequently resigned his position at Keokuk, and accepted the chair of natural sciences in the Cleveland University.

In 1853 the Ohio State Medical Society offered a prize for the best essay on a medical or surgical topic. The prize was awarded to Dr. Armor for his essay upon the "Zymotic Theory of the Essential Fevers."

This essay gave the doctor a great reputation throughout the Western States, and it was during the same year that he was invited to accept the chair of physiology and pathology in the Medical College of Ohio, located at Cincinnati; this he did, resigning his position in the Cleveland University. During the following year he was transferred to the chair of pathology and practice of medicine and clinical medicine, which position he continued to fill during his connection with the school.

During the reading of his prize essay before the State Society, then in session at Dayton, Ohio, Miss Mary A. Holcomb, only daughter of a retired merchant, a young lady of fine ability and great culture, was present.

Their acquaintance soon ripened into mutual attachment, and they were married in 1856.

After his marriage Dr. Armor changed his residence to Dayton, continuing his connection with the college at Cincinnati. In Dayton he succeeded in building up a good practice.

Previous to the consolidation of the two medical schools in Cincinnati, he resigned. The "Cincinnati Medical Journal," in commenting upon this resignation, says: "We have heard many lecturers, both in this country and in Europe, but we have heard but few who could surpass Prof. Armor in riveting the attention of a class."

Immediately on resigning, he was elected to the chair of pathology and clinical medicine in the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis. He delivered one course of lectures in this school, but, although urged to remain, declined to do so, and returned to his practice in Dayton.

One of the Philadelphia medical journals in speaking of his resignation says: "Dr. S. G. Armor, of Dayton, Ohio, one of the most able and elegant lecturers in the great West, has resigned the professorship of pathology and clinical medicine in the Missouri University. To those who are acquainted with Dr. Armor's fine abilities as a public teacher, no praise of ours will add to his fame. It is with no disposition to disparage others that we declare our conviction that, in the peculiar powers of a didactic teacher, he is not surpassed in the United States. It seems to us impossible that Dr. Armor should remain long in private life. With talents which will so greatly enhance the reputation of any institution in whose interest they may be employed, we predict for him at no distant day an increase of fame in some new and more extended field."

This prediction was not long in attaining a realization, for in 1862 he accepted the chair of institutes of medicine and materia medica in the University of Michigan.

During the war of the Rebellion, the doctor was sent by the

Governor of Ohio to inspect the sanitary condition of the Ohio troops in the field. He gathered and reported much valuable information, which was of great service to the medical department of the army.

After connecting himself with the Michigan University, he removed his residence to Detroit, where he soon entered upon a large and lucrative practice ; and, whenever during recent years he returned to that city, if only for a few days' visit, he was called upon in a professional capacity.

That he was held in high esteem by the profession of Detroit, the resolutions recently adopted by the Detroit Academy of Medicine, and published in the New York medical journals, testify.

In 1866 he was called to the chair of therapeutics, materia medica and general pathology in the Long Island College Hospital of this city, and the following year, on the resignation of Prof. Flint, was transferred to that of practice of medicine and clinical medicine. This position he continued to hold, up to the time of his death, October 27, 1885.

His first wife died in this city 1878. They had one child, a daughter, who married Dr. Ward, of Chicago. In 1883 Dr. Armor married the wife who now survives him. She was the widow of General Yorke, of Cincinnati, and is a lady of culture and fine education.

In Dr. Armor's death, many of us lost a valued friend, the profession, a shining exponent, and the city and country, one whose place will be hard to fill.

Of his twenty years' work in this city, others, who have known him longer, will speak. I cannot refrain from saying a few words, however.

Our acquaintance began about twelve years ago. During the past nine years I have known him intimately, and a great part of that time, been closely associated with him. He was a man of wonderful simplicity of character, always cordial and genial in his greeting. His equanimity of temper was remarkable ; almost never have I seen it ruffled.

His individuality was decided, a man of firm convictions, yet never dogmatic or obstinate. His conversation was always instructive, and he never failed to give you something to think

about. His study had not been confined to medical subjects alone, but was quite general, and, having a very retentive memory, he could talk intelligently, and at times eloquently, upon almost any subject. He had travelled a great deal both in this country and Europe, and well do I recall the graphic descriptions of places he had visited. As a teacher of medicine, he had few equals. This was the universal testimony of students who listened to him. His style was simple, yet forcible. He had a faculty of formulating the important facts of a subject in such a way that students could grasp them intelligently and retain them. One of his associates in the faculty at Ann Arbor once said that Dr. Armor beat any man to put horns on a subject, he ever saw.

In practice, he was remarkably strong in therapeutics and prognosis. For the ordinary conduct of a case, I did not regard him as unusual. He was too large a man for detail; but, for an occasion, or in an emergency, I do not know his equal. His resource seemed boundless.

It is a great loss to the world that he did not leave in some tangible form his general ideas of therapeutics.

In my opinion, they would have been somewhat of the form of, and as enduring a monument as, Headland's "Action of Remedies."

In prognosis he especially excelled. His faculty for observation, his sound judgment and analytic mind, together with an unusually retentive memory, made him remarkable in this direction. Many are the incidents which recall this power to those who knew him.

His writings were mainly for the current medical literature.

The last published article is a chapter in Pepper's "System of Medicine," on "Functional and Inflammatory Diseases of the Stomach." Unfortunately his unpublished manuscript consists solely of short lecture-notes, which were of use only to himself. Had they been written as they were delivered, his already wide reputation would have been greatly extended.

CAUSES OF DR. ARMOR'S INFLUENCE IN THE PROFESSION.

By Dr. Alexander Hutchins.

Dr. Armor's life was, to a large extent, passed prominently before the eyes of his professional brethren. Mourned by many, as the departure of personal friends is mourned, by many more his death was felt to be a serious loss. This means, if it means anything more than the shock that is felt at sundering the ties of good-fellowship, that he was contributing something to the sum of human advantage, and that those who knew him believed that his work was not done, and that, if further opportunity had been given him, he had capacity for still further usefulness to his fellows. The character of the eulogiums that have been pronounced upon him all indicate that this is the general belief.

He has left behind no monumental work. There is no one rounded effort of his for the present or future generations to point to as his special contribution to the world's treasure-house. He has lighted no beacon on a bold headland, whose rays are to illumine the pathway of any who shall, in later days, be groping their way with uncertain steps.

Not thus is he to be judged and his memory recalled. He was a man of distinctive personality, doing his duty well in ways peculiar to himself, and exerting influence for good, whose expression is to be found in the repetition of that influence in other lives. He was a man of mark, not because of occasional outbursts of his fullness of power, but because it was his mission to be a continual dispenser of that which was continually being wrought out within himself.

From the purely professional side it may not be without avail to recall certain aspects of his life, which made these characteristics keep him within the modest circle of the always welcome friend, teacher, and adviser.

Dr. Armor was distinctively and always a physician. Utterly removed from any taint of braggadocio or the intrusiveness of shop-talk, his purpose in life, his bent of habits and his conversational drift led those who were in contact with him to the in-

evitable sense that he was in every fibre the medical man. He lived in the engrossing environment of the one absorbing life-work of professional contemplation and deed. The impression that he made on his associates was that of one pre-occupied with his profession. Association, occupation, study, the illumination of diverse knowledge, all trended on the professional road. With other casts of mind and habits of living, this might drive headlong into pedantry; with him, in his round of duties, it meant an influence. And this influence, without pretence or intrusiveness, was Dr. Armor's mission. He was a born teacher: he found his place and held it to the end.

His congenial, and it might almost be said with accuracy his exclusive, associations were with his professional brethren. A glance over the many unbroken years of his official connections sufficiently confirms this statement. His life was spent among medical men. For many years his duties drifted him away from the ordinary relations of professional life, and, separated from the particular ambitions and competitions that bring into bold relief and friction the personality of most men, he instinctively sought sympathy and association among those whose tendencies of life corresponded with his own, and on a plane removed from any contests where rivalry begets restraint. It was less a matter of premeditation than a necessity arising out of what he was. By reason of this, it was congenial to him to be the helpful, and not patronizing, associate of those who were working their way up into the places of professional life. The instinct of medical study made student life agreeable to him, and the teacher became, perforce, the associate of the taught. It needs no sentences to explain another cause of Dr. Armor's influence.

In keeping with those same characteristics was his easy and steady affiliation with the organized societies of medical men. He drifted naturally to conventions of his kind, absorbing from others and contributing of his own. At the meetings of this Society, scarce one more regular; in smaller coteries of similar intent, he was drawn as regularly, the magnet in either being the same irresistible drift toward that which made up the fullness of his life. From large motives he had a profound sense of the importance of organized societies of medical men. He held the sure

conviction that the profession of medicine lay as a necessary foundation for a wise and judicious and effective practice of the art. He held, as all sober men must know, that the practice of medical arts, unanchored to the *esprit du corps* that holds fast and unique the body of the medical profession, must inevitably disintegrate into innumerable deceit. His ways led him within these walls from choice, but that choice was moved by a judgment convincing him that these societies were the protection of professional honor. To this, also, is to be ascribed somewhat of the influence he held among us.

In recalling these aspects of his memory it is not a small matter, or one to be treated lightly, that Dr. Armor's ways were apart from those of the great mass of his brethren. It is not to his credit or discredit, it is not for eulogy or censure, for applause or sneer, that the business instinct was entirely subordinate in his mental constitution. Had his abilities been directed other than as they were, and the acquisitive element found a financial playground, the Dr. Armor that we knew would not have been. It is the mere statement of a fact in his career, without prejudice to the hosts of his peers who are honoring the profession he adorned and whose construction is different from his. But it does add clearness to one other aspect of his influence, that he was approachable without possible intervening cloud of competition. He could never be in want, but no combination of opportunity could have ever diverted him from his congenial task.

Thoroughly in harmony with these characteristics was the fact that Dr. Armor's position among his fellows was prominent by reason of his large and general acquirements. He was a large and varied reader. His acute intellectual grasp and a logical habit of mind enabled him to so classify his information as to make it available when needed. His habit of thought was essentially logical. Though not a disputant, he always argued. Some of our soundest as well as most brilliant and successful brethren grasp their situations with rapid precision, and would find it difficult to re-state the argument for the benefit of others. Dr. Armor's mental habits were cast in another mould. He was under the necessity of going over the argument to himself before

the conclusion was reached. And this was equally true in his relations with his professional friends. In consultations, in society discussions, in written papers, and in scientific coterie, this mental habit was uniform. He was a lecturer by necessity, and he could not escape from this thraldom. It takes a very moderate experience to perceive that, for the average man, similarly endowed with these mental habits, the courtesy of his associates might at times be put to severe strain. Dr. Armor, however, had in him the gentle instincts that would not permit him to be tedious or monopolizing, as well as the large experience and broad culture that rapidly sifted out the unimportant detail which (though few men can be exhaustive) made him uniformly instructive and helpful.

It will hardly be questioned, in these days when so much is being said and so little done in the way of a higher medical education, that there is an appreciated need of something other than is offered in the medical schools and gained in the ordinary activities and attrition of medical life. That the arts of medicine are practised at their best by large numbers of medical men must be held as true. That the all-around men, capable of meeting offhand the diverse emergencies of human ills, are scattered all over wherever civilization has pushed its way is, likewise, without doubt. That these men are useful, and honest, and well-doers, and needful, does not admit of debate. It is a meaningless fling that no great competency is required to practise medicine; for the routine details of all professions and occupations are being performed with accuracy and satisfaction everywhere by men who, honorably and acceptably doing their allotted work, have neither the desire nor the ability to do other than they are doing, and who will pass on so to the end. The needs of the world would hardly be satisfied if a so-called liberal education were exacted of all novitiates in medical study, and it by no means follows that, if by common consent this exaction were demanded, all medical men would be planets in the professional firmament. But it is, nevertheless, true that the profession of medicine is strengthened by its men of varied power and accomplishment, and that medicine has been made a profession by the men who have had the power to evolve and arrange its principles. The

great mass of the honest workers therein must be content to use the principles furnished to their hands, and be glad to honor the men who have been more worthily endowed with higher powers and larger opportunities.

It is no reckless eulogy or fulsome apotheosis to say, as we look back upon the life that was spent among us, that Dr. Armor, who did his duty well, did it well in his station, because he believed in and labored for the upbuilding of the profession; that he is to be remembered as one who, fitted for large opportunities, filled his place with honor to himself and advantage to his brethren; and who, endowed with large natural gifts, adorned them with the graces of general culture. The days of hero-worship are fleeing fast away from these days of intense individualism and widespread information. Dr. Armor was not a hero; on the contrary, he was a plain, unobtrusive man, well endowed, who helped his fellow-men.

And we shall none of us lose by recalling him. A man so placed that he can spend his life in strengthening the foundation of the edifice he occupies, to base it more firmly for those who are to occupy it when he is gone, may well inspire us all to self-scrutiny as to how possible it may be for us to make life easier for those about us now, and more fruitful and enjoyable for those who are to take the places we must leave.

The oft-quoted—but, among men living the life we are living, the never-too-often-quoted—maxim of Lord Bacon is fitting to this memorial notice of our friend:

"I hold every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereunto. This is performed, in some degree, by the honest and liberal practice of a profession: when men shall carry a respect, not to descend into any course that is corrupt and unworthy thereof, and preserve themselves free from the abuse wherewith the same profession is noted to be infected. But much more is this performed if a man be able to visit and strengthen the roots and foundations of the science itself, thereby not only growing it in reputation and dignity, but also amplifying it in perfection and sustenance."

DR. ARMOR'S PLACE IN THE PROFESSION.

By Dr. Alexander J. C. Skene.

Marble, bronze and canvas, under the magic touch of the artist, are made to perpetuate the material forms of those who are gone; but this is all that the artist can do. The lifeless image can bring back the living reality to the memory of those only who knew the being while living.

The pen-portrait of the faithful biographer alone can preserve men as manifested by their thoughts and actions while in life. It is the immortal work of the man that we most highly prize and most desire to perpetuate. All men have a physical being that can be photographed; few leave a monumental life-work worthy of preservation.

The thoughts, words and deeds of Dr. Armor, if preserved and faithfully portrayed, would show one of Nature's masterpieces, an honor to the race, acceptable to the critic, and valuable as a model to the aspiring student.

Dr. Armor was the beneficent physician. He was known as such, and will be remembered as just that manner of man.

All he did and all he said were for the benefit of those who needed his aid and care.

Not the scholar bending over his books at the midnight hour, lost in thought and far from the sorrows and suffering of the human race; not the theorist toying with some corpuscle or cell while the human being from which it was taken lay tortured with pain, perhaps dying, for want of a drop of water or an anodyne; not the ambitious man, reading, searching, experimenting and writing in the hope of doing something that would bring fame, fortune and immortality in the memory of men; not the renowned discoverer laboring in the laboratory to solve the problems of life, disease and death, enthusiastic and happy in his systematic work, because believing that indirectly he is benefitting his kind.

Dr. Armor was not a discoverer, neither was he generally known as an original worker in any special field of investigation; but in his knowledge of the discoveries of others, and in his power to classify, harmonize and adapt them to the every-day

wants of the human race, he was without a rival in his day. He lived and labored continually to adapt human knowledge to the wants of mankind.

Knowledge to him was valuable only so far as it gave him power to do his work as a physician. He gathered from all sources every scrap of knowledge which could help him in his practice, but he never lingered to muse and speculate about the possibilities of any crude theories, no matter how fascinating they might be to a lover of abstract science.

He was a workman who loved his work, and valued it so far as it gave tangible and useful results.

Men of this type are generally called practical; in the case of our fellow and friend, practical meant useful. In this he was a representative American physician: one possessing all that was requisite and necessary to the object of his life.

He was competent—eminently so by nature and culture. He enjoyed his work, and did it with all his might. The tall, striking figure, strong and kindly face, and voice which was manly and musical, gave him a respectful hearing at all times and in all places.

His manner was peculiarly simple, indeed quite plain at times. There was a dash of hearty off-hand freedom which had in it more of the Western prairie than of the parlor or French salon, and was not at first acceptable to the reserved autocrat of the East. But, though rugged and unconventional, he was ever pure and kind, and sure to win respect and esteem in time.

His social conduct toward his patients was exactly what the highest culture of the present age demanded. He looked upon patients and their friends as intelligent beings, whose rights had the first claim to respect. He had nothing in him akin to the pompous autocrat of the profession, whose stronghold and safety are dignity and a mysterious use of words. Neither had he any trace of the glib-tongued shopman of the profession, who talks for effect.

He gained confidence (by a free expression of his views regarding disease and treatment), and kept it by faith in his own knowledge, trust in the intelligence of his patients, and his own uncompromising honesty.

He knew nothing whatever about acting for personal favor. His code of professional ethics was based upon his own honesty of purpose and confidence in the intelligence and honesty of the great mass of the people. This placed him in the highest relations to the most worthy and appreciative of his fellow-men, and guarded him from the annoyance of the butterflies and moths of society that are attracted by glare.

He started out in life with an inherent love of knowledge and an inherited honesty of purpose, and these were his guides through all his professional career.

His professoreal robes were as pure and white when he laid them aside as they were when he put them on in his youth, one year after he graduated in medicine.

He was naturally constituted for a physician : fine perceptive powers associated with good reason and judgment; in short, a well-balanced large brain sustained by a strong body, and a heart which brought him into sympathy with the human race and gave him the desire to be useful to those around him.

The whole course of training from boyhood up was all in the way of making him complete and fully capable of the great object of his life. This raised him high in the ranks of men, and made him a true specialist in medicine—one with a wonderfully comprehensive grasp of all that he required for his every-day duties. There is something supremely satisfying in contrasting such an one with the pseudo-specialists who flutter in the rays of one small artificial lamp, believing it to be the light of the whole universe.

Equally gratifying it is to compare such a man with the benighted generalists who, having learned all nursery songs, feel competent to interpret the works of all the masters in the art of music.

Dr. Armor's knowledge of special pathology was ample but not perhaps exhaustive, and in physical diagnosis, in certain lines, he may have had many equals, but, in general pathology and the art of diagnosis generally, he had few if any rivals.

No man could grasp more comprehensively the nature of a given disease, its local lesions and its secondary and ultimate effects upon the general organization, the influence of the patient's

surroundings to favor or protract recovery, and find the means of relief suggested by the state of the patient in all his conditions and relations.

He never lost sight of the patient's interests while looking at a morbid condition, and he left no stone unturned to bring relief. In this, he was certainly one of the leading physicians of this age.

As a therapeutist, he occupied the highest plane. Below him on one side were the votaries of drugs still clinging to the almost obsolete idea that medicine alone is potent in the management of disease—men with full belief in the total depravity of the physical as well as spiritual state of mankind, who were bound to war against disease with the heaviest artillery in the materia medica. Far below him on the other side stood the fungous growths in medicine, the products of this restless, feverish, nervous age—men with faith without a spark of reason, who believe or affect to believe that they can heal the sick with remedies as intangible and incomprehensible to themselves as to their patients. Near to but yet beneath him were those men of science well versed in the nature of disease and the means of detecting it, but with a modern skepticism in the curative power of remedial agents—the devotees of expectant treatment. Beside him were ever found the exponents of preventive medicine, who kept him company as far as they went his way. From all of these he gathered useful knowledge. He clearly and kindly scrutinized all of them, and, when he could find nothing useful in them, he profited by their folly and their blunders.

Over twenty years ago, while he was professor of therapeutics, he had mastered the subject so far as the literature went, and he had systematized the knowledge of this branch of medicine far more completely than any one else in this country. The suggestions of others were made useful, and, in short, he made more of the knowledge of many of the masters than they did themselves. Headland's "Therapeutics," as expounded by Armor, was greater than the original. He was to America what Trousseau was to France, and Anstie to England.

His lectures of twenty years ago embodied all the facts contained in Anstie's work on "Stimulants and Narcotics," published ten or twenty years later. Those who heard him lecture at the

time referred to, and subsequently read the book of Anstie, know this to be true.

His knowledge of therapeutics was not by any means limited to the great principles of the healing art—he was equally familiar with all the details of actual practice. Some of the greatest generals are said to have been thoroughly familiar with the duties of the private soldier, so this great physician knew well the minor as well as the major points in the care of the sick. He not only could solve the great problems in pathology and therapeutics, but was equally expert in directing how to administer food or medicine, or do anything that could add in any way to the comfort or welfare of a patient. This came from his having been at one time largely engaged in private practice where one who has the capacity learns many things not taught in hospital practice.

As a teacher, he had the highest conception of the duties and responsibilities committed to his care. Some one has said that the system of education in one country in Europe made scholars, while in another it made useful men. Dr. Armor took his inspiration from the latter.

In the class-room he labored most effectually to familiarize his students with the great laws which underlie pathology and therapeutics, but never bewildered them with obscure things or disjointed facts. He gave the key that unlocks the doors to all the departments of medical science and art, so that his pupils could find their own way; and he also taught them how to observe, think and act for themselves. He made rational practitioners, not imitators.

The influence of this teacher, in the class-room and in consultation at the bedside, during the past quarter of a century, did more to establish the reputation of American physicians than the labors of any one man in the country. This came not from his scientific ability alone, but largely from a strong desire to make all with whom he came in contact better practitioners.

His influence was far greater than it otherwise would have been because his interest was not self-centred. While others were straining every nerve to attract the attention and approbation of the world, he was ever busy trying to help them to do

good work, regardless of himself. His influence will long be felt. It is present now, and stops the praise of his name long before it begins to be extravagant. Could he hear this much said of himself, he would be sure to say that the testimony offered was evidently from biased witnesses.

This thought raises the question as to what he left undone, if anything. All who knew him well agree that he did not write enough. His knowledge and experience and remarkable style of writing made him the best qualified man in this country to write a work on the practice of medicine, but this was not done. This is the only duty which he neglected. How complete his labors would have been had he done this!

The reason for this may be found in the fact that he knew full well that so many make books out of that which they read in the works of others, and some write far more than they read without knowing how much others have done. Both parties labor for personal glory, not the advancement of science, and he may have dreaded being in any way like these. He certainly was too hard to please with his own work to make book-making easy for him. This is the only regret that has been expressed by others while commenting upon his life.

Would that kind fortune had furnished him with some one who could have preserved to this country the products of his fertile brain! To those who come after this, all is lost, save here a little and there a little among those who knew him and learned of him.

Much as a work by such a man would have been valued, it may be asking more than was possible for him. We know our own wishes, and yet do not always know how impossible it may be for others to gratify us. Dr. Armor did enough to merit all the praise that can be given him. He left the profession in this country better than he found it, and made a host of friends and admirers in and out of the profession who will cherish his memory in time to come. Thousands of professional men rose higher in professional life because of his inspiring precepts and example. He gained honors for the whole profession by teaching the people to respect and honor him, and through him the whole fraternity.

He was unknown to many, no doubt, who never looked high enough to see him. The crowd that can see greatness only in gold, and who pay homage to those who have the power to oppress their fellow-creatures, would not notice Dr. Armor. Those who live in the higher realms of life, and feel that knowledge and self-sacrifice and devotion to others is the stamp of immortal greatness, knew him, and felt that he was worth knowing.

So it was in his own profession of medicine. The men arrested early in development, who have to give all their time to secure a bare existence, know little of him. It was the bright stars in the profession who knew him as the good, beneficent physician and beloved associate.

Though there was little of that political sagacity in him which is most potent in winning the approbation of kings, he might have had royal decorations bestowed upon him had he lived in any of the older countries; but a better award was allotted to him: the confidence, gratitude and esteem of the ablest heads and greatest hearts among the people of America.

This will last when crests and coronets and marble monuments have crumbled and are forgotten. His influence while here was ever to guide us onward and upward. As a laborer in the vast fields of medical science and art, he was a master joyous and happy, at peace with all his co-workers both great and small. As he marched along, he made the journey through life with its duties and cares all bright by his hymns of praise to nature and nature's laws.

Though now unseen, in thought he is still visible as from the other shore he beckons us on to higher attainments.